



Tuesday Tech Talk

Music Apps

January 21, 2020

There are many different apps for your devices that will provide you with an array of music and podcasts for your listening pleasure. Please refer to the Tech Talk handout from the Podcast session in November 2019 for details on podcasts. This handout focuses on music.

Google Play Music (free or subscription) – will soon become part of YouTube Music

Free version – has ads, but you can upload your own music library to the cloud and play it ad free.

Subscription is ad-free, unlimited skips, personalized radio stations, and YouTube Red. Playlists will transfer to YouTube Music when the transition occurs.

Family plan - \$14.99 for up to 6 people

Individual - \$9.99 per month

YouTube Music (free or subscription)

Free to use with ads

If you already pay for YouTube Premium, Music is included

\$10/month

Apple Music (subscription)

\$10/month for individuals, \$15 for families

Available for iOS and Android devices

50 million songs and you can add yours but there is no free option as with Google

Includes documentaries about bands, concerts, etc.

Spotify (free/subscription)

Has 80 million subscribers and 40 million songs

Can create custom playlists for computer or phone.

Free version is only shuffle play, so if you want to play any specific song, listen offline and go ad-free, you need to subscribe at \$10/month. However, you can pick favorite artists and playlists will be provided.

Go to iTunes or Google Play to download Spotify

Amazon Music (free/subscription)

Free songs are plentiful and contains your Cloud Player library which includes uploaded songs or purchased songs.

Subscription is \$10/month or \$8/month for Prime members. Even cheaper at \$4/month if you have just a single

Echo or Fire device. 4 million songs for subscribers. Amazon Prime members get access to paired down version (2 million songs) included. Nice for those who have Prime. Inferior to other services listed above.

Audible (free trial of 1 book/subscription)

Associated with Amazon. If you like to listen to audio books on your phone or tablet, then Audible is an option.

Cost is \$14.95 per month after a 30 day free trial of 1 book. Special deal now for annual membership for \$99.50, usually \$149.50. Provides for 12 audiobook credits upfront (1 credit = 1 book) and 2 Audible Originals each month.

Idagio (free/subscription)

Classical music app. Free service is pretty limited and has ads.

First login requires setting up account and pushes you to subscribe payment page. Hit back to skip payment and you will see dashboard. Subscription is \$10/month and includes on demand and ad-free listening, offline listening, a personal collection of tracks, and ability to connect via Bluetooth speakers and other devices. First 3 months are \$.99/month for Premium.

TuneIn Radio (free/subscription)

Access to 120,000 live radio stations around the globe to include music, news, sports, current events. No cost to access the radio stations, but there are ads. Premium subscription service offers live access to NFL, MLB, NBA and NHL game, audiobooks and ad free listening.

Soundcloud (free)

A community for musicians, bands, podcasters. You can search artists, listen to songs on your feed, and record and post your own audio. Subscriptions are for music creators (\$6/month) for cloud space, and Soundcloud Go for listeners at \$5/month ad-free, and \$10/month for full catalog of music. More than 125 million tracks!

iHeartRadio (free/subscription)

Radio app allowing you to listen to a variety of stations based on your individual taste and includes podcasts, comedy shows, and AM/FM channels, too. \$9.99/month for ad-free version.

Pandora (free/subscription)

Users are dwindling but this is essentially a personalized radio service as you enter likes and dislikes and Pandora feeds you more of what you like. Free version has ads. For \$5/month you can go ad-free, have unlimited skips and play offline. The premium subscription is \$10 and you can choose single tracks to listen to, so it's a full on-demand streaming service.

Stingray Quello Concerts (free/subscription)

Available on a wide variety of devices including Apple TV, Roku and Android TV, it provides access to more than 2000 concert videos. \$8/month to get access to the database of concerts. Free version is limited to trailers and promo tracks and Qello TV channels.

Shazam (free)

Known for its music detection skills – recognizing a song or TV show in seconds – and will stream the tracks once recognized. Not really a stand-alone music app, so best to team with a streaming app.

Musixmatch Lyrics (free)

Has the world's largest catalog of lyrics and so you can search for lyrics, id music playing around you, and add lyrics if they are missing.

Calm

Music, guided meditation, sleep stories for relaxation and...calm. Free for 7 days, then \$59.99 for the year.